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Professional and pedagogical competencies in learning factual paragraph reading aspects

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Article info **Abstract** Keywords: This study aims to explore: 1) the professional competence of elementary school high-graduate teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills; 2) the professional pedagogical competence of elementary school high-graduate teachers in competence, learning factual paragraph reading skills. The population of this study consisted pedagogical competence, and of 32 elementary school high-grade teachers in Malangbong District, who submitted questionnaires via Google Forms. The sample consisted of up to 30 factual paragraph reading teachers, determined using statistical formulas. Data on the professional and pedagogical competence of elementary and high school teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills were collected using a Google Form-based questionnaire compiled through objective and systematic procedures to ensure it met the requirements of a valid instrument. Data on the professional and pedagogical competence of elementary school high-grade teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills were analysed using parametric inferential statistical procedures, specifically the one-sample t-test. The results of the study: 1) the professional competence of elementary school and high school teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills is in the high category; 2) the professional competence of elementary school and high school teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills is in the high category too.

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1. Introduction

Every teacher must have adequate professional and pedagogical competence. Thus, teachers can implement learning using educational indicators by employing learning strategies tailored to the student's character and learning objectives. In other words, through adequate professional and pedagogical competence, teachers will be able to plan effectively, implement activities, and achieve learning objectives.

The professional competence of teachers is: 1) mastering the material, structure, concepts, and scientific mindset that supports the subjects taught; 2) mastering the competency standards and basic competencies of the subjects/development areas taught; 3) developing the learning materials taught creatively; 4) developing professionalism continuously by taking reflective actions; 5) utilizing information and communication technology to communicate and develop themselves. Especially for elementary school teachers, the Indonesian language subject must: 1) understand the nature of language and language acquisition; 2) understand the position, function, and variety of Indonesian; 3) master the basics and rules of Indonesian as a reference for the use of good and correct Indonesian; 4) have Indonesian language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing; 5) understand the theory and genre of Indonesian literature; 6) be able to appreciate Indonesian literary works, receptively and productively (Sanjaya, 2008, Sisdiana, 2018; Febriana, 2021; Musfah, 2011). For secondary school teachers, mastery of knowledge and skills in subject matter is limited to subjects according to the level of education in the undergraduate study program-1. If the teacher is a graduate of the Mathematics Study Program, they must possess mastery of knowledge and skills in mathematical material, as outlined in the learning objectives contained in the curriculum. However, it differs from elementary school teachers; mastery of knowledge and skills in subject matter is not limited to specific subjects, but instead applies to all subjects as accepted in the PGSD Study Program at the undergraduate level-1. This means that schools implementing a class teacher system require the teacher concerned to teach the subjects of PPKn, Indonesian, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Arts and Culture. Class teachers do not teach Islamic Religious Education, Character Education, or Physical Education. Islamic Religious Education, Character Education, and Physical Education subjects are taught by their respective teachers, not by class teachers.

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1) understand the nature of language and language acquisition; 2) understand the position, function, and variety of Indonesian; 3) master the basics and rules of Indonesian as a reference for the use of good and correct Indonesian; 4) have Indonesian language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing; 5) understand the theory and genre of Indonesian literature; 6) be able to appreciate Indonesian literary works, receptively and productively (Sanjaya, 2008, Sisdiana, 2018; Febriana, 2021; Musfah, 2011). For secondary school teachers, mastery of knowledge and skills in subject matter is limited to subjects according to the level of education in the undergraduate study program-1. If the teacher is a graduate of the Mathematics Study Program, they must possess mastery of knowledge and skills in mathematical material, as outlined in the learning objectives contained in the curriculum. However, it differs from elementary school teachers: mastery of knowledge and skills in subject matter is not limited to specific subjects, but instead applies to all subjects as accepted in the PGSD Study Program at the undergraduate level-1. This means that schools implementing a class teacher system require the teacher concerned to teach the subjects of PPKn, Indonesian, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Arts and Culture. Class teachers do not teach Islamic Religious Education, Character Education, or Physical Education. Islamic Religious Education, Character Education, and Physical Education subjects are taught by their respective teachers, not by class teachers.

The factual conditions of professional competence and pedagogical competence of high-grade elementary school teachers are interesting to study. First, the professional and pedagogical competence of teachers is in the high category; on the other hand, the professional and pedagogical competence of teachers is categorised as moderate. (Dudung, 2018; Mâta et al., 2013; Syamsinar & Jabu, 2016; Prasetyo & Purwosaputro, 2024; Riswan & Habibah, 2022).

Politically, the Ministry of Education and Culture states that every elementary school teacher is declared to have professional and pedagogical competence if the teacher concerned has one academic requirement. The requirement in question is a bachelor's degree in the PGSD study program or the PGMI study program.

Based on the description above, two research problem formulations are presented. First, how is the mastery of professional competence in learning factual paragraph reading skills in grade 4 of elementary school? Second, how is the mastery of pedagogical competence aspects in learning factual paragraph reading skills in grade 4 of elementary school?

This study has research objectives. First, to describe the mastery of professional competence in learning factual paragraph reading skills in grade 4 of elementary school. Second, to describe the mastery of pedagogical competence in learning factual paragraph reading skills in grade 4 of elementary school.

Here are some of the benefits of the research. First, for supervisors, namely elementary school principals, because data on professional and pedagogical competencies of teachers can be used as considerations in supervising class teachers in terms of learning materials and learning strategies. Second, for planning the implementation of factual paragraph reading skills learning, this article is also helpful because it has the potential to be used as a reference for compiling learning implementation plans for other aspects of language or in integrated learning

related to learning materials and strategies. Third, for students of pedagogical study programs, this article is also helpful because it enriches the variety of learning strategies.

2. Method

This study uses a descriptive method. Through this method, data on the mastery of professional competence and pedagogical competence of elementary school senior high class teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills are described. The population of this study consisted of 32 elementary school senior high class teachers in Malangbong District, who submitted questionnaires via Google Forms. Their numbers are divided into eight schools: 1) SD Negeri 1 Malangbong; 2) SD Negeri 2 Malangbong; 3) SD Negeri 3 Malangbong; 4) SD Negeri 5 Malangbong; 5) SD Negeri 1 Citeras; 6) SD Negeri 1 Cibunar; 7) SD Muhammadiyah Ciwahang Malangbong; 8) SD Muhammadiyah Bojong Malangbong.

Each member of the population is given a 3-digit code. The first two digits represent the order in which the questionnaire was submitted on Google Forms, ranging from 01 to 32. The second digit represents the name of the elementary school, specifically: number 1 is SD Negeri 1 Malangbong, number 2 is SD Negeri 2 Malangbong, and number 8 is SD Muhammadiyah Bojong Malangbong. Therefore, the population coded 325 is a member of the population who submitted the questionnaire in the 32nd order on the Google Forms, and this population member comes from SD Muhammadiyah Ciwahang Malangbong. The sample consisted of 30 teachers. The determination of this number is based on Slavin's formula, namely: n = N: [1 + N(e)2] with an error of 0.05 (Amin et al., 2023; Fraenkel et al., 2013; Razak, 2017; Santoso, 2023; Sukmadinata, 2012). Each sample member is drawn randomly from the population using a technique that ensures no replacement. This is in line with expert opinion, which states that the number of samples that is close to the number of populations is commonly used to draw sample members using a technique without replacement (Arikunto, 2013; Razak, 2020; Sukmadinata, 2012; Creswell, 2014; Balaka, 2012; Malik & Hamied, 2014; Syamsuddin & Damaianti, 2006).

Each member of the population selected as a sample member in the first sequence is assigned code 01, the second sequence is assigned code 02, and so on, up to the 30th sequence, which is assigned code 30. The sample drawing sequence code is placed behind the population code, making it the sample code. For example, the population coded 325 was selected as a sample member in the last drawing, namely the 30th sequence, so this sample member is coded 32430. Data on the mastery of professional and pedagogical competence among high-grade elementary school teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills were collected using a Google Form-based questionnaire instrument. This questionnaire is valid because it was compiled using objective and systematic procedures that align with expert opinion (Akbar, 2013; Azwar, 2013; Fulcher & Davidson, 2007).

Table 1. Population and sample code per the name of the elementary school

No	Population Code	Sample Code	Name of Elementary School
1	12	1219	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
2	26	2618	SD Muhammadiyah Bojong Malangbong
3	31	3117	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
4	47	4722	SD Negeri 1 Citeras
5	53	5326	SD Negeri 3 Malangbong
6	61	6114	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
7	72	7209	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
8	85	8512	SD Muhammadiyah Ciwahang Malangbong
9	97	9729	SD Negeri 1 Citeras
10	101	10115	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
11	118	11824	SD Negeri 1 Cibunar
12	122	12208	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
13	134	13402	SD Negeri 5 Malangbong
14	148		SD Negeri 1 Cibunar
15	155	15510	SD Muhammadiyah Ciwahang Malangbong
16	161	16101	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
17	171	17104	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
18	188	18825	SD Negeri 1 Cibunar
19	196	19616	SD Muhammadiyah Bojong Malangbong
20	203	20306	SD Negeri 3 Malangbong
21	218	21827	SD Negeri 1 Cibunar
22	222	22211	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
23	238	23821	SD Negeri 1 Cibunar
24	244		SD Negeri 5 Malangbong
25	256	25620	SD Muhammadiyah Bojong Malangbong
26	267	26730	SD Negeri 1 Citeras
27	273	27305	SD Negeri 3 Malangbong
28	282	28223	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
29	294	29403	SD Negeri 5 Malangbong
30	301	30113	SD Negeri 1 Malangbong
31	312	21307	SD Negeri 2 Malangbong
32	325	32728	SD Muhammadiyah Ciwahang Malangbong
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The procedure for designing a questionnaire to assess the mastery of professional and pedagogical competencies of high-grade elementary school teachers in reading factual paragraphs includes several steps. The questionnaire will be created in a closed-ended format (agree/disagree) using Google Forms. The professional competency indicators encompass mastery of various aspects of paragraphs, including meaning, type, and primary/supporting sentences, with one statement for each indicator. The pedagogical competency indicators encompass aspects related to student mastery, teaching methods, approaches, evaluation techniques, and learning media, with one statement corresponding to each indicator. The statements will include both positive and negative phrasing. The questionnaire specifications will

be presented in a table that includes columns for the number, indicator, statement type, and item number.

Table 2. Questionnaire specifications for mastering professional competencies in learning factual paragraph writing skills

No	Professional competency mastery indicators	Туре	ltem number
1	Definition of a paragraph	negative	1
2	kind of paragraph	negative	2
3	Definition of deductive paragraph	positive	3
4	Definition of an inductive paragraph	positive	4
5	Factual paragraph definition	negative	5
6	Fictional paragraph definition	negative	6
7	Mean sentence	positive	7
8	Supporting-1 sentence	positive	8
9	Supporting-2 sentence	negative	9
10	Supporting-3 sentence	negative	10
11	Mean idea	positive	11
12	Supporting-1 idea	positive	12
13	Supporting-2 idea	negative	13
14	Suppoorting-3 idea	negative	14
15	Similarities between sentences and ideas in a	positive	15
	paragraph		
16	The difference between sentences and ideas in a	positive	16
	paragraph		
Total			16

Table 3. Questionnaire specifications for mastering pedagogical competencies in learning factual paragraph writing skills

No	Pedagogical competency mastery indicators	Туре	Item number
1	The meaning of fast mastery for students	negative	1
2	The meaning of slow mastery for students	negative	2
3	The meaning of an introverted student	positive	3
4	The meaning of an extroverted student	positive	4
5	The meaning of empathy for students	negative	5
6	The meaning of classical learning	negative	6
7	The meaning of individual learning	positive	7
8	The meaning of deductive learning	positive	8
9	The meaning of inductive learning	negative	9
10	The meaning of integrated learning	negative	10
11	meaning of the model method	positive	11
12	The meaning of the direct method	positive	12
13	The meaning of the indirect method	negative	13
14	The meaning of the constructivism approach	negative	14
15	The meaning of the process skills approach	positive	15
16	The meaning of the outcome approach	positive	16
17	The meaning of test technique	negative	17
18	The meaning of the copying assignment technique	negative	18
19	The meaning of enrichment teaching materials	positive	19

No	Pedagogical competency mastery indicators	Туре	Item number
20	The meaning of regular learning	positive	20
21	The meaning of repetition learning	negative	21
22	The meaning of indicators	negative	22
23	The meaning of evaluation	positive	23
24	The meaning of formative evaluation	positive	24
25	The meaning of summative evaluation	negative	25
26	The meaning of learning media	negative	26
27	The meaning of test specifications	positive	27
28	The meaning of operational properties of the test	positive	28
29	The meaning of reflection in learning	negative	29
30	The meaning of apperception in learning	negative	30
31	The meaning of remedial teaching	negative	31
Total			31

The procedure for writing questionnaire items resulted in 16 items on professional competence and 31 items on pedagogical competence for high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, using agree and disagree options. The professional competence data is scored out of 16, with correct answers earning a score of 1 and incorrect answers earning 0. For instance, a positive statement scores 1 for "agree" and 0 for "disagree," while a negative statement scores 0 for "agree" and 1 for "disagree." The pedagogical competence data is scored out of 30, with each question receiving 1 point for a correct answer and 0 points for an incorrect one. The data on both competencies were analysed using a one-sample t-test, with the expected mean for professional competence at 11.90 and pedagogical competence at 26.35, both aiming for a standard mean of 85.00. The analysis was conducted using SPSS, a statistical software application.

The criteria for mastering professional competence and pedagogical competence in learning factual paragraph reading skills are categorised into five distinct categories (Rasyidin, 2014; Judiani, 2011; Siswandoko & Suryadi, 2013; Cahyana, 2010).

Table 4. Criteria for mastering professional competence and pedagogical competence in learning factual paragraph reading skills

No	Ranges	Categories	
1	<50.00	very low category	
2	50.00 - 65.00	low category	
3	65.00 - 75.00	medium category	
4	75.00- 90.00	high category	
5	90.00	very high category	

3. Result

3.1 Mastery of teachers' professional competence

First, the data score on the mastery of professional competence of high-grade teachers in Malangbong District, specifically in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, is presented. The mean is 13,87 and the standard deviation is 0,850 (Table 5).

Table 5. Descriptive statistics of professional competency mastery data

No.	Samples code	Score
1	22211	15
2	23821	15
3	25620	15
4	26730	15
5	27365	15
6	28223	15
7	29403	15
8	30113	15
9	21307	15
10	32728	15
11	16101	14
12	17104	14
13	18825	14
14	19616	14
15	20306	14
16	21827	14
17	1219	13
18	2618	13
19	3117	13
20	4722	13
21	5326	13
22	6114	13
23	7209	13
24	8215	13
25	9729	13
26	10115	13
27	11824	13
28	13402	13
29	19616	13
30	15510	13
mean		13,87
percent		86,67
stdev		0,85

Second, the mean score for the mastery of professional competence of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, is 13.87 with a standard deviation of 0.850 (Table 6). The mean score is equivalent to a standard percent score of 86.67.

Table 6. Statistics calculation results of data mastery of professional competence of high-grade teachers in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills

One-Sample Statistics					
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	
professional competence	30	13,87	0,85	0,155	

Third, the one-sample t-test of data on the mastery of professional competence of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, at a comparative mean of 13.87, yields a t-value of 2.362 (Table 7). This value has a significance level of 0.025. Thus, sig. 0,025 < 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This means that the mean mastery of professional competence of teachers, 13.87 (equivalent to a standard score of 86.67%), is not significantly different from the mean of the comparison group, 13.60 (equivalent to a standard score of 85.00%). Based on the calculation results above, the mastery of professional competence of high-grade teachers in learning factual paragraph reading skills falls within the high category. This is because the mean mastery of professional competence of teachers is 13,87 or 86,67.

Table 7. The output of the results of the one-sample t-test calculation of the data on the mastery of professional competencies of high-grade teachers in the aspect of reading skills in factual paragraphs

One-Sample Test					
Test Value = 13,60					
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	
professional competence	2,362	29	0,025	0,367	

3.2 Mastery of teachers' pedagogical competence

First, the data score on the mastery of pedagogical competence of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, specifically in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, is presented. The mean is 26,90 and the standard deviation is 0,607 (Table 8).

Table 8. Descriptive statistics of pedagogical competency mastery data

No	Samples code	Score
1	23821	29
2	26730	28
3	25620	27
4	22211	27
5	27365	27
6	28223	27
7	29403	27
8	30113	27
9	21307	27
10	32728	27
11	16101	27
12	17104	27
13	18825	27
14	19616	27

No	Samples code	Score
15	20306	27
16	1219	27
17	3117	27
18	4722	27
19	9729	27
20	10115	27
21	5326	27
22	6114	27
23	7209	27
24	8215	27
25	21827	26
26	2618	26
27	11824	26
28	13402	26
29	19616	26
30	15510	26
mean		26,9
percent		86,77
stdev		0,607

Second, the mean score of mastery of pedagogical competence among high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, is 26.90 with a standard deviation of 0.607 and standard error. Error mean is 0,111 (Table 9). The mean score is equivalent to a standard per cent score of 86.77.

Table 9. Statistics calculation results of data mastery of pedagogical competence of high-grade teachers in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills

One-Sample Statistics					
N Mean Std. Deviation Std. Error Mean					
professional competence	30	26,90	0,607	0,111	

Third, the one-sample t-test of data on the mastery of pedagogical competence of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills, yields a comparative mean of 26.35 and a p-value of 4.959 (Table 10). This value has a significance of 0.000. Thus, sig. 0,000 < 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This means that the mean mastery of pedagogical competence among teachers, at 26.90 (equivalent to a standard score of 86.77%), is not significantly different from the mean of the comparison group, at 26.35 (equivalent to a standard score of 85.00%).

Table 10. Output of the results of the one-sample t-test calculation of data on the mastery of pedagogical competencies of high-grade teachers in the aspect of factual paragraph reading skills

1 0 0			0 1	
	One-S	Sample Test		
	Test V	alue = 26,35		
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference
pedagogical competence	2,362	29	0,025	0,367

4. Discussion

Regarding the mastery of professional competence by high-grade teachers in the high category, several causal factors are believed to contribute to this achievement. First, the sample members are teachers who graduated from elementary school teacher education programs. Second, the sample members are estimated to attend training and/or workshops on professional competence in language and pedagogical aspects frequently. Marina et al. (2019), Nurhamida (2018), Rahman et al. (2019), and Tabi'in (2016) stated that training and/or workshop activities are practical activities to improve professional and pedagogical competence.

One of the indicators of the professional competence mastery of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District, specifically in learning factual paragraph reading skills, is the mastery of the third indicator: defining deductive paragraphs. Through positive statements, all sample members agree that the meaning of a deductive paragraph is a paragraph that contains one main idea, typically introduced by a sentence at the beginning of the paragraph. In line with the mastery of this indicator, many scientific articles in online journals at the elementary school/Islamic elementary school level contain studies on paragraphs in both reading and writing aspects (Darningsih, 2023; Sadiah & Herdiansyah, 2023; Reyaan & Wutwensa, 2024; Rahayu & Sukmawan, 2024; Hermayuni & Widiasih, 2025).

Another fifty-fifty indicator in sample members is the 15th indicator, namely the similarity between sentences and ideas in a paragraph. Through positive statements, some sample members choose the "agree" option, while others choose the "disagree" option. The group of sample members who agree means that they possess knowledge of the similarity between sentences and ideas. The size of the sentence is the same as the size of the idea. In other words, the size of the idea never exceeds the size of the sentence and vice versa.

Regarding the mastery of pedagogical competence by high-grade teachers in the high category, several additional factors are believed to contribute to this achievement. First, the sample members are teachers who graduated from elementary school teacher education programs. Second, the sample members are estimated to have both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation for acquiring knowledge and skills in the field of learning strategies. Ajitama (2023), Sukamto & Pardjono (2016), Rasidi (2014), Gultekin & Acar (2014), Hayati & Caniago (2014), and Teguh et al. (2014) describe that motivation has a positive influence on everyone's ability to gain knowledge and skills.

One of the many interesting facts about the pedagogical competence of high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District is their mastery of the indicator of the constructivist approach in learning, specifically indicator 14. Through negative statements, all sample members answered in agreement with the statement 'the constructivist approach is included in the type of deductive learning'. The constructivist approach (Bada, 2015; Dagar & Yadav, 2018; Hashim & Kasbolah, 2012; Wardoyo, 2013) is a type of inductive learning. At the beginning of learning, it has not touched on learning indicators at all. At the beginning of the learning process, students are encouraged by teachers to express their opinions freely. However,

on the other hand, some elementary school teachers write articles using the constructivist approach (Kamti, 2022; Yamin & Faridah, 2023; Muslina, 2023; Kusmiati & Mariah, 2024).

5. Conclusion and Implications

The mastery of professional competence among high-grade elementary school teachers in Malangbong District for learning factual paragraph reading skills reached a mean of 13.87 (equivalent to 86.67%), which is higher than the predicted standard mean of 85.00, placing it in the high category. This indicates that teachers are capable of objectively compiling and implementing reading skills plans, providing students with sufficient and in-depth learning materials. The implication is that stakeholders should support these teachers in further improving their mastery of factual paragraph reading skills to achieve a level above 90.00.

Similarly, the mastery of pedagogical competence among these teachers had a mean of 26.35 (equivalent to 86.77%), also exceeding the predicted standard mean of 85.00, which places it in the high category. This suggests that teachers can develop reproducible learning plans for reading skills, using appropriate methods, approaches, techniques, and learning media suited to learning objectives and student needs. The implication is that stakeholders should help these teachers enhance their teaching strategies for reading factual paragraphs, aiming for a mastery level above 90.00.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Ethical Declaration

All participants provided informed consent prior to their involvement in the study. They were informed about the study's purpose, procedures, and their right to withdraw at any time without consequence.

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